

GOOD MORNING MR. CHAIRMAN AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

MY NAME IS BING GOEI, DIRECTOR OF THE MICHIGAN OFFICE FOR NEW AMERICANS.

BEFORE I BRING MY FORMAL REMARKS, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE CONSTITUENTS WE SERVE AS THE MONA FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE OUR GREAT STATE. AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO WILL BE LEAVING YOUR PSPOSITIONS AFTER THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO TESTIFY BEFORE THIS COMMITTEE ON HCR-28. A RESOLUTION ASKING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS OF THE U.S. TO HALT FURTHER REFUGEE PLACEMENTS UNTIL THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ABLE TO COMPLY WITH APPROPRIATE SCREENING AND SECURITY CHECKS, AND CONSULT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN FUTURE PLACEMENTS.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, TODAY I SIT BEFORE YOU AND ASK YOU TO CONSIDER THE NEED FOR SUCH A RESOLUTION AND WHETHER OR NOT SUCH A RESOLUTION WILL ADD OR DETRACT FROM WHO WE ARE AS A STATE AND AS A PEOPLE. WHETHER WE OR NOT WE GAIN OR LOSE THE ECONOMIC MOMENTUM THAT EACH ONE OF YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN DEVELOPING FOR OUR GREAT STATE.

FROM WHERE I SIT AS THE DIRECTOR OF MONA, I AM CONVINCED THAT WE HAVE MORE TO LOSE THAN WE WILL GAIN BY MOVING FORWARD WITH HCR-28.

ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN BY SHARING WITH YOU A STORY OF A REFUGEE FAMILY THAT SETTLED IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN. THIS FAMILY FLED THEIR COUNTRY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT WAS

BEGINNING TO GOVERN IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE PARENTS FEARED FOR THE WELL BEING OF THEIR CHILDREN. THIS FAMILY FLED TO A COUNTRY THAT WILLINGLY ACCEPTED THEM. 51/2 YEARS LATER THIS FAMILY WAS ABLE TO COME TO THE USA.

THE FATHER WAS A WELL EDUCATED TEACHER WITH SEVERAL DEGREES AND OVER 20 YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE. AFTER GOING BACK TO COLLEGE, THIS FATHER BECAME ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED TEACHERS IN THE SCHOOL. EVEN TODAY, SOME OF HIS 6TH GRADE STUDENTS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP APPRECIATION FOR BEING THEIR TEACHER AND MAKING THEM IN THEIR WORDS “ A BETTER PERSON”.

THE WIFE WENT TO WORK FOR GM AND SET A STANDARD FOR PRODUCTIVITY THAT AMAZED HER SUPERVISOR TO THE POINT THAT THIS SUPERVISOR BROUGHT IN HIS SUPERVISOR AND HIS SUPERVISOR’S SUPRVISOR.

THEY CAME WITH 7 CHILDREN. AND ONE OF THEIR SONS HAS BECOME A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS LEADER IN MICHIGAN. WHO TOOK OVER A BANKRUPT BUSINESS AND SAVED 70 JOBS AND IS ADDING MORE. WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN MANY AWARDS FOR HIS COMMUNITY WORK IN ADVOCATING FOR JUSTICE TO THOSE WHO HAVE NO VOICE. WHOSE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ACKNOLWEDGED FOR THEIR GREAT WORK AS A PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY NURES AND AS A ONE OF THE BEST NEO-NATAL NURSES IN THE HOSPITAL WHERE SHE WORKS.

HALTING THE PLACEMENTS OF REFUGEES WILL CAUSE US TO LOSE SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS AND WILL ONLY IMPOVERISH OUR STATE.

MICHIGAN WILL ALSO LOSE ITS NATIONAL REPUTATION OF BEING A WELCOMING STATE AND IN SO DOING WILL LOSE ITS OPPORTUNITY

TO ATTRACT THE INTERNATIONAL TALENT THAT WE SO DESPERATELY NEED TO FILL MICHIGAN'S TALENT GAP. MICHIGAN COULD ALSO LOSE THE INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL FIND THE CURE FOR A TERMINAL ILLNESS. MICHIGAN COULD LOSE THE NEXT ENTREPRENEUR WHO DEVELOPS THE NEXT "GOOGLE" IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

MR. CHAIRMAN, HCR-28 WILL NOT ADD TO MICHIGAN'S QUALITY OF LIFE AND THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE PART OF MICHIGAN'S LEGISLATIVE HISTORY.

I STARTED MY COMMENTS BY SAYING THAT I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU A TRUE STORY OF A REFUGEE FAMILY, AND I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THIS IS A TRUE STORY BECAUSE IT IS MY STORY.

AND NOW I WANT TO END MY COMMENTS BY ASKING YOU "WILL HCR-28 ADD TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR MICHIGANDERS OR WILL IT REDUCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR MICHIGANDERS?"

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN.